

CANADIAN MOVING PICTURE DIGEST

Vol. 21, No. 30

TORONTO 2, CANADA

November 23rd, 1929



TELEGRAMS FOR MISS HOLLYWOOD REVUE

JUST A FEW OF THE DAILY DELUGE OF PRAISES!



Bessie Love



Dane



Arthur



William Haines



John Gilbert



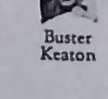
Joan Crawford



Conrad Nagel



Norma Shearer



Buster Keaton



Laurel



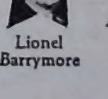
Hardy



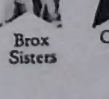
Marie Dressler



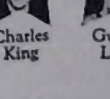
Gus Edwards



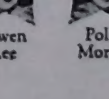
Lionel Barrymore



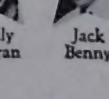
Brox Sisters



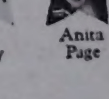
Charles King



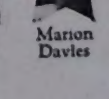
Gwen Lee



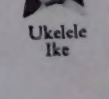
Polly Moran



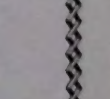
Jack Benny



Anita Page



Marion Davies



Ukelele Ike

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"LOW DOWN RHYTHM"
"ORANGE BLOSSOM TIME"

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"MARIANNE"
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Song Hits!

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"HARLEM MADNESS"

King Vidor's

HALLELUJAH

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By IRVING BERLIN

Cecil B. De Mille's

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Charles Bickford—Julia Faye

Song Hit!

"HOW AM I TO KNOW?"

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Cliff Edwards—Sally Starr

Song Hits!

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(If I Can't Have Your Love)
"UNTIL THE END"

DEVIL MAY CARE

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"SHEPHERD'S SERENADE"
"MARCH OF THE OLD GUARD"
"IF HE CARED"

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"I'M FOLLOWING YOU"

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Telephone: Trinity 1481

Cable: Ontocanada

Published by Canadian
Moving Picture Digest
Company, Limited

259 Spadina Ave. - Toronto

London Office

80-82 Wardor St., W 1

RAY LEWIS

Editor and Managing Director

Vol. 21, No. 30

TORONTO 2, CANADA

November 23rd, 1929

"Growing Pains"



LESS than two decades ago the Screen began to develop "Growing Pains," emerging from a five and ten cent entertainment to the twenty-five and fifty cent class; and giving the Industry the shock of its life by the presentation of feature, or five-reel pictures. The public was equally thrilled; and began that form of hero-worship which made stars, producers and distributors, fortunes!

The "Growing Pains" continued, the feature developed into a super-feature, the technical properties became more and more perfected; and the theatre began to show symptoms of unrest, of growing, breaking away from the "Shooting Gallery" to the block building, which housed not only a super-theatre, but stores and offices.

The Theatre of Motion Pictures acquired real estate, it became on speaking terms with bankers; and the rate of interest decreased as the rate of respect and confidence increased.

There appeared for a time no indication of further pains of growth in the Industry. The travail of creative effort, of progress appeared to have been spent, producers discovered "nothing new under the sun," the public grew apathetic; and many a star ceased to revolve around the orbit of public appeal!

Theatreowners became the "real Showmen of our Industry," in many cases impressarios! The lavishness of their presentations excelled the opulence in many cases of the production; and everything that could build up public patronage around a Motion Picture, from a Symphony orchestra, to Keith-Albee vaudeville acts was introduced!

Still the public did not, in sufficient numbers, applaud the effort, in addition to this phase of development, the expense involved, ate too voraciously into the profits; and Show Business became reversed, it was a case of the theatreowner taking the big gamble to get them in, making the initial investment, whereas in the good olde show days, the Show carried the "Excess Baggage of Overhead."

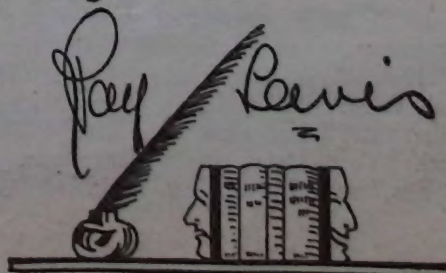
Then "Vitaphone" became on Speaking terms with the public; and the Industry became aware that this was the new thing for which it was waiting.

Again "Growing Pains" became the order of development, laboratories competing with each other in their research work along these lines; and working in conjunction with manufacturers to establish the "Sound and Talking Picture" on a marketable basis.

The change in the Industry from 1927 to 1929 is as radical and pronounced as one as the change from 1914 to 1929; and this changed state is one of progress, for the Industry is daily introducing discoveries as they emerge full-grown from the research laboratories of affiliated interests.

Colour through the Technicolor process is perfecting itself, the film is widening, the screen is growing; and the subject matter of the story is also taking on Hippodrome proportions. What is the theatre doing?

It has stretched its four dimensions to meet the present demand, but with the third dimension in Pictures now drawing near, it looks as if the theatre will have to be new-built to accommodate the growth of the Pictures.



RAY



RAY LEWIS

PRESENTS

I HAVE a letter from "Jaydee" Williams, he writes me that the "big job" is one of the biggest he has yet put over; and that good progress is being made.

The production has Sir Gordon Craig at the head of it; and is one which involves a ten million dollar deal, already launched.

Sir Gordon is well-known in the trade, having had excellent success with his productions; and having established a position of strength financially, through the good grace of being always able to pay dividends to shareholders. Aside from this financial consideration Sir Gordon is a political power and a social favorite. When I use the term "political power," I use it without prejudice, indicating by this term that Sir Gordon is the type of a gentleman in whom that force, called government, takes a pride.

WHILE we are citing that spirit which flushes the cheek pleasantly and causeth the heart to glow pleasurably; and which we mortals designate as "pride," my thoughts return to "Jaydee," and this self-same pride becomes manifest.

Everybody likes "Jaydee," therefore it is not surprising that your editor likes him also, "Jaydee" is liked for many reasons, I like him particularly because he has vision, showmanship sense, because he is a builder, a promoter, and his ideas always live, building up enterprises into the future!

I SAW N. L. Nathanson the other day pouring over some plans which appeared to be a mile long, a mile wide and a mile high. I said, "N. L., it looks as if your limit is the sky." "Yes," said N. L., "the sky is an excellent limit, providing you keep your feet on the ground." Which made me rather reminiscent, and took me back to the Famous Players a decade ago. I thought of the common stock, bonus stock which had no value, save future possibilities; and how "N. L." had made that stock worth thirty million dollars. It looks as if his feet were planted very solidly on the ground.

THE REPRESENTATIVES of the various Censor Boards visited Toronto, as guests of Major Boylan of the Ontario Censor Board. The meeting was not formal, just a friendly "get together."

TOM DALEY introduced your editor to a few representatives looking at "Rio Rita" at the Tivoli, Wednesday night. I said, "It's a great show isn't it?" and they agreed with me. This was the third time I had seen "Rio Rita." This is how it happened. Tom Daley said, "Have you seen 'Rio Rita?'" "Yes," said I, "in New York."

Said Tom, "Oh, I know you saw it in New York, but did you hear it at the Tivoli, the best 'sound equipped house' in the world." Now Tom Daley is another representative in our Industry in whom I take much pride, so I let him show me the show just to prove that he was right; and after listening to "Rio Rita" there, I came again; and that is how I happened to meet our Canadian Censor Board representatives. But to get back to the conference. There was a meeting in Major Boylan's office, at the Parliament Bldgs., where the Censor representatives received deputations.

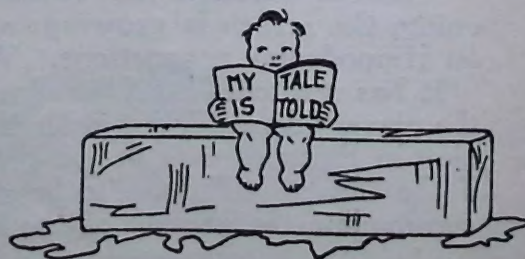
M. R. HARRY SEDGEWICK, of the Famous Players gave a splendid informal talk on Censorship from the managerial viewpoint, emphasizing the fact that Censors really had no cause for anxiety in connection with screen material, since each theatre manager officiated as a Censor, in order to safeguard the patronage of his theatre.

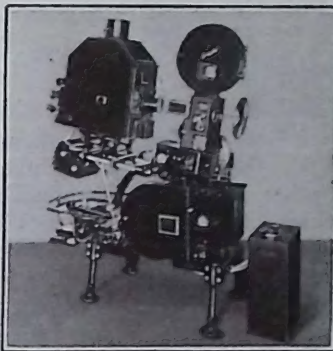
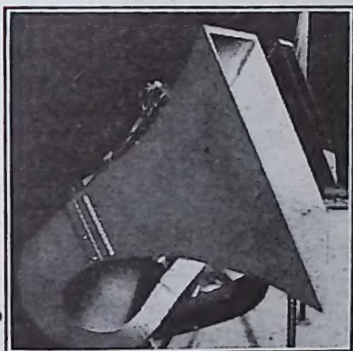
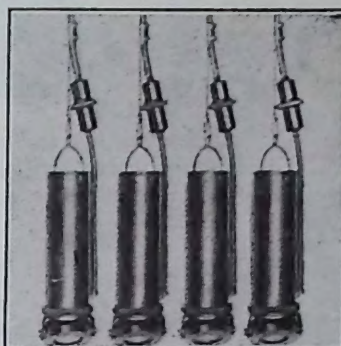
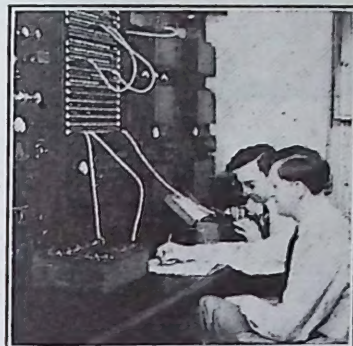
Col. John Cooper was in good form; and stressed many important points, particularly that phase which gave the public the impression that the Industry in Canada was American-controlled.

Col. Cooper pointed out that whatever was detrimental to the interests of pictures imported from the U. S. into Canada, hurt the Industry in Canada. That the Industry in Canada was operated by Canadians, resident here; and that the revenue from theatres was left in Canada.

ABOUT 95% of the men, engaged in the distribution of Motion Pictures in Canada were Canadians. Col. Cooper said that the Censor Boards could co-operate with the Industry greatly by helping to offset unfavorable propaganda, and to correct the impression that the Industry of Motion Pictures in Canada was an American Enterprise!

While the Colonel agreed that the majority of pictures here shown were American, it was due to conditions and circumstances only, governing an inability to get British and foreign product from other countries. So far only two "Sound" British pictures had been imported; and one with Dialogue, not yet released.





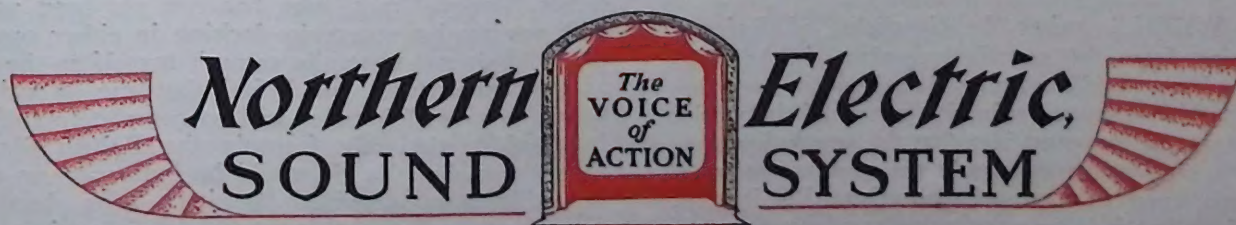
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3. Sound Projector
4. Standard Projection
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pictures

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The Northern Electric Sound System is installed, maintained and serviced by experts in this line of work. Stocks are carried at convenient points for quick delivery.

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Research Products Sales Department

637 Craig St. West, Montreal

Observations



By The Editor

"Let he who observes, observe that he too is being observed in his observations; and therefor let him make his remarks as he observes the subject of them, nor add a tittle, nor a jot to that which passeth between the observer and the observed. So by these rules may all men know the observer is observant."

HAROLD PFAFF, popular with distributors and exhibitors in Canada, a 100% Canadian, has been appointed General Sales Manager for Tiffany in Canada. Mr. Oscar Hanson made the appointment.

Mr. Pfaff succeeds to the position made vacant by the sudden death of Phil Hazza.

Our best wishes to Pfaff!

* * * *

IN A TALK with L. F. Hoffman, Vice-President and Toronto Manager of Perkins Electric Company Limited, we are informed that the new Simplex Super mechanism will be available for delivery in Canada December 1st and that the Perkins Company expect a heavy demand for Simplex machines. Mr. Hoffman also stated that every manufacturer of talking equipment designed to the Simplex machine, and adapted their outfit to other machines. The Perkins Company have sold and installed ninety Simplex machines in the last sixty days. Mr. Hoffman calls the Simplex the International Projector, made in the largest and oldest plant in the world devoted to the manufacture of motion picture projectors and claims Simplex supremacy is the result of twenty-five years' experience in the selection of men, methods and materials.

* * * *

A STORY arrives from London, England, in connection with "Jaydee" Williams' \$10,000,000 Multi-Lingual production proposition.

* * * *

THE STORY is published in the Sunday Referee and is headed, "Pictures in Six Languages." It carries sub-headings which read, "Gigantic British Film Development—World Studio Centre For London," and confirms that Sir Gordon Craig is the leader of the new Enterprise.

* * * *

QUOTING from the Referee, we acquaint ourselves with the following information, signed by "Spotlight."

* * * *

I WONDER who my "Spotlight" friend is? I remember that Ray Lewis once was identified with a publication by such a nomenclature of illumination. Forgive our digression. Editors will become reminiscent when an "association of ideas" thrusts its vision upon them.

* * * *

"LAST WEEK," writes the Spotlight, of Referee, "arising from the ecstatic reception of "Atlantic" in Berlin, I ventured to argue that London must become the talking picture production centre of the world. I had then not the remotest idea that the greatly imaginative scheme outlined to me nearly six months ago by J. D. Williams was on the eve of realisation. But it is so. And the fact that it is so permits me to advance my argument of last week far beyond the point to which I then dared to carry it. We are on the eve of a great development in British picture production, national in its inspiration, international in its application.

WE can take it without argument that what has happened in Berlin with regard to "Atlantic" was not an accident. It happened for two reasons. One was that "Atlantic" was a talking picture in German. The other was that Germany was waiting for it. Already two different producers have come from Paris to make talking pictures in French. Paris, too, is waiting for her own talking pictures in her own tongue. And so with the Spanish speaking countries, the Italian, and the Swedish, and all other countries with a language and a literature.

* * *

WE reach, therefor, in no spirit of antagonism, but by a simple recognition of facts, a point at which Hollywood ceases to be able to produce international pictures. Berlin, Paris, Rome, Madrid, and all the great cities of Europe will demand talking pictures as definitely national as their national theatres. They will demand, in their talking pictures, that their languages shall be perfectly spoken by those actors and actresses who are the ornaments of their speaking stages.

* * *

J. D. WILLIAMS, who conceived Paramount, who conceived First National, and who conceived the Elstree Studios, which are now our best picture production asset, has now conceived what will be known as the World Studio Centre, under which there will be created by next summer a vast new film colony with twenty huge stages, capable of turning out every year thirty pictures, each in at least six different languages. The vision behind such a scheme is tremendous. Its practicability is unassailable.

* * *

THE most obvious and the most immediate results of the World Studio Centre will be to treble Britain's talking picture production capacity, to turn the eyes of the non-English speaking world to London, and to place British picture production on far more secure foundations than on which it has ever hitherto rested.

* * *

ALTHOUGH this scheme is not to be regarded as a challenge to any other country but rather as an assertion of the right of our own country to a place of importance in the picture world, it is, to those of us who know our British film world, a guarantee of the high purpose of the World Studio Centre that its chosen chief is Sir Gordon Craig, who has not yet been associated with any motion enterprise lacking in either prestige or profit. I do not generally commit myself to the support of new enterprises, but I feel that the World Studio Centre is so well founded and so completely fulfils what I regard as the only formula the British film world should consider, that it would be hypocrisy on my part to withhold my unmixed blessing. Nor should I refrain from adding that anyone who is against this enterprise can be so only because of reluctance to see British picture production realise at last its due and overdue importance."

(Continued on Page 8)

Capitol, Smith Falls Is Officially Opened

The Capitol Theatre, Smiths Falls, was officially opened last week, and the theatre was filled to capacity. The Capitol, is not a new house, having closed its doors for alterations, and the installation of Sound Equipment.

The patrons commented favorably upon the beauty and splendor, the artistic changes, made in the theatre, also the lighting effects, which added considerably to the grandeur of the Capitol.

Mayor D. H. Gemmell, expressed his delight, on behalf of the citizens, for the added asset of this beautiful, and modern theatre, embracing as it does all the innovations of the Motion Picture's recent discoveries.

The opening feature "The Fall of Eve," and the comedy, "Shpimates," starring Lupino Lane, received the approbation of the audience.

We hope that the opening "full house" is an example of the patronage the Capitol is to continue to receive, and The Digest sends its best wishes for the success of this theatre.

H. J. Baldwin visited Winnipeg recently, to purchase sound equipment for the Community Hall Theatre, Souris, Man.

Bairnsfather Is Sued For Thousand Loan

N. L. Williams, Toronto, filed complaint at Osgoode Hall, against Bruce Bairnsfather, for the sum of \$1,042.97 which Williams claims he loaned to Bairnsfather. \$1,000 is the actual loan, and \$42.97 is the interest which has accrued.

The plaintiff further asks for an injunction restraining the Canadian International Films Ltd., from paying any funds due Mr. Bairnsfather, until the alleged debt is paid to him.

Paramount, Hanover Closing For Talkies

Mr. George B. Rahn, proprietor of the Paramount Theatre, Hanover, is closing his theatre for the month of December, to arrange for the installation of Sound Equipment.

Mr. Rahn expects to open for Christmas. A new concrete floor is to be put in, and the theatre made absolutely fireproof.

WANTED

Operator and Manager desires position, preferably outside Toronto, 12 years experience. Good references. BOX 11, DIGEST.

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723 SEVENTH AVE. NEW YORK CITY

Let us tell you how the Silent Sentinel will Safeguard your BOX OFFICE Receipts and Speed up your Business.

New Famous House For Nova Scotia

The Capitol Theatre to cost \$1,000,000, is to be erected in Halifax by the Famous Players Canadian Corporation. The building will be constructed by the MacDonald Construction Company.

Sound Screens

Walker screens used in every large circuit in the United States but one — are now installed in the following Canadian Theatres:

THEATRE	TOWN	THEATRE	TOWN	THEATRE	TOWN
Amherst	Montreal	Napoleon	Montreal	Academy	Toronto
Arcade	Montreal	Papineau	Montreal	Capitol	Toronto
Belmont	Montreal	Plaza	Montreal	Belsize	Toronto
Bourget	Montreal	Regent	Montreal	Capitol	Simcoe
Cameo	Montreal	Rex	Montreal	Duchess	Toronto
Centre Palace	Montreal	Rialto	Montreal	Empire	Cochrane
Crystal Palace	Montreal	Rivoli	Montreal	Delaneys	Gananoque
Corona	Montreal	Rosemount	Montreal	Kum-C	Toronto
Empress	Montreal	Seville	Montreal	Pickford	Toronto
Empress	Lachine	St. Denis	Montreal	Photodrome	Toronto
Fairyland	Montreal	Strand	Montreal	Victoria	Toronto
King Edward	Montreal	System	Montreal	New Martin	Oshawa
Lord Nelson	Montreal	Westmount	Montreal	Royal	North Bay
Maisonneuve	Montreal	Montreal Censor Board	Montreal	Royal	Bowmanville
Midway	Montreal	Elite	Granby	Ontario Board of Censors	Toronto
Mount Royal	Montreal	Capitol	St. John's	Majestic	Dundas
		Laurier	Hull	Maitland	Ingersoll
				Grand	Georgetown

Walker Screens Sold in Canada by

Perkins Electric Company Limited

Toronto

Montreal

Winnipeg



Show Business



An indication of the manner in which the Ontario Board of Moving Picture Censors has been cutting into recent talking pictures is seen in the inspection statistics for October. During that month 171 releases were examined, 122 were approved without change but five were condemned outright and 119 deletions were made in 44 pictures. The numerous deletions are really what are causing trouble because censorship in a talking feature is particularly noticeable.

United Amusement Corporation, Limited, Montreal, operating 17 modern theatres throughout the Province of Quebec, has issued its annual report which shows substantial increase in profits even though talking installations were rather late in the company's theatres.

Gross profits for the fiscal year totalled \$543,126, as compared with \$485,765 for the previous 12 months. Net profits figure out at \$4.13 for each common share having a market value of \$35. The United Amusement company has opened theatres in Sherbrooke and Quebec City and has also invaded Three Rivers. Two new houses are being constructed in Montreal.

Donat Paquin, proprietor of the three theatres in Hull, Quebec, has branched out into the automobile business, having built large new showrooms and taken three important automobile agencies.

"The Skeleton Dance," a special short subject released by Columbia, has been having big success in Canadian cities, with three weeks at the Tivoli, Toronto, and advertised runs at the Regent, Ottawa, and the Princess, Montreal.

The first run in Canada of Harold Lloyd's "Welcome Danger" took place at the Ottawa Regent during Armistice Week when it secured near capacity in spite of outdoor attractions and the opening of the local hockey season.

Definite consideration is being given to the subject of a national theatre by the Canadian Government and the development has been given space in the Canadian press which has pointed out that the legitimate theatres are conspicuous by their absence.

A site for a Government theatre, fully equipped for all types of entertainment, has been provided in Ottawa, the Canadian Capital, and sketches of the structure have already been displayed. This is interesting locally because the Government took the Russell Theatre, former combination house, by expropriation methods to establish a Federal parkway system.

The Government is giving thought to the erection of national theatres in several of the leading cities in which Canadian talent and Canadian moving pictures would be featured. Official announcement regarding complete plans has not yet been made but it is believed that the newspaper discussion has been inspired by Government officials in order to ascertain public opinion. Reference is made to the fact that South American republics have their national theatres.

People are walking out of Ottawa, Ontario, theatres when the unseen announcer starts to read off the subtitles in talking news weeklies. There is considerable re-

sentment when the screen voice opens up with the printed word appearing in the film captions.

The first pictures of the grandeur projection type to be presented regularly in Canada have been introduced at the Avalon Theatre at Ottawa in connection with the first anniversary celebration at this house. Manager P. J. Nolan installed a full stage screen and then made use of his Magnascope equipment which is a permanent fixture in the projection room. The Avalon was also the first house in the Dominion to have a Brenkert color dissolver.

The Regent Theatre, Ottawa, Ontario, was loaned to the Red Cross Society for a Sunday concert recently by Manager T. R. Tubman. Ontario does not allow Sunday performances so the tickets were privately disposed of during the previous week.

Observations

(Continued from Page 6)

IN A RECENT issue of The Digest, under a reproduction showing the interior of a theatre in which the Northern Electric Sound System had been installed, we captioned this photographic reproduction of the theatre as the Capitol, at Sherbrooke, Que. This picture happens to be the Capitol at Three Rivers, Que., and was the one hundredth installation of "Sound Equipment" made by the Northern Electric Co. in Canada.

* * * *

WE HAVE not heard from the Canadian Performing Right Society for some time, owing to the fact that Col. John Cooper of the Motion Picture Distributors and Exhibitors Association working in conjunction with Mr. Arthur Cohen of Famous Players, have so successfully organized "ways and means" for the protection of theatreowners against the alleged infringements of copyright, as alleged by the Performing Right Society of Canada.

During the past four years splendid work has been accomplished; and leading the interests involved was the ever-present Col. Cooper, indefatigable in his offices of offering constructive suggestions and resolutions.

* * * *

MR. ARTHUR COHEN was conspicuous in this good work also; and if the theatreowner would only look over a list of fees as collected and operative in Australia, some idea of the financial value of the work done in Canada, can be estimated.

If similar rates were charged throughout the Dominion, by the Canadian Performing Right Society, it would mean an expenditure of at least \$60,000 a year for theatreowners. Australian charges:

City Theatres—\$10.80 per 100 seats per annum. If the annual revenue shows an average weekly gross takings of \$5,000 or over, the rate to be \$21.60 per 100 seats per annum. Suburban and Country, 6 performances a week—\$6.00 per 100 seats per annum. If the annual revenue shows an average weekly gross takings of \$2,500 up to \$5,000 the rate to be \$10.80 per 100 seats per annum. Suburban and Country, 3 performances per week—\$4.44 per 100 seats per annum. 2 performances per week—\$3.00 per 100 seats per annum. 1 performance per week—\$1.80 per 100 seats per annum. Minimum charge—\$6.00 per annum.

Phil Hazza Passes On

PHILLIP HAZZA, familiarly called "Phil", put up the bravest kind of a fight in a battle with death, following an emergency operation for appendicitis, but after peritonitis and pneumonia had conspired to make Death the winner, "Phil" had no chance!

The shock to the Industry was almost as great as the shock to Phil's immediate family and friends.

Two cars carried the floral offerings of sympathy; and the entire Industry here turned out to do "Phil" homage, to see him off on this last, sad journey.

Many wept remembering "Phil's" kindness of spirit; and in sympathy for his family, who so grievously mourned him!



PHILLIP HAZZA

WITH "PHIL," when the Grim Reaper took his toll, were Oscar Hanson, General Sales Manager for Tiffany; W. C. Gehring, Third District Manager and Harry Bernstein, Tiffany's Special Representative, all old friends as well as business associates of "Phil."

Phil Hazza was born in Toronto, and was well-known to, not only Torontonians, but to the Industry throughout the Dominion, and the United States, having covered these countries many times during the course of his travels.

Recently he visited New York, and apparently was in the best of health. The Digest saw him before his departure and he never looked better, nor seemed more alive with plans which he intended to talk over with "the boss, Oscar."

AFTER several conferences he returned to Canada, en route to Montreal. On reaching Syracuse he was seized with what was apparently an acute attack of appendicitis. A physician was consulted, but he advised that the journey should be continued.

On reaching Toronto "Phil" was rushed to St. Michael's Hospital, but peritonitis had already set in; and although it looked as if he might rally at times, so prodigious was "the fight to live" which he put up, Death was the Victor; and "Phil" passed on.

SURVIVING him are his wife, Minna, three sisters, Mrs. W. Kaner, Mrs. S. Cohen, and Mrs. I. Harris, resident in Toronto, and Rupert and John of Calgary.

John Hazza, who is Manager of the Capitol Theatre, Calgary, arrived in Toronto when he was informed of his brother "Phil's" danger; and remained with him until "Phil" passed beyond human aid and consolation.

The Digest extends its deepest sympathy to the widow and the surviving members of the family.

The funeral took place on Monday, November 18th.

PRIOR to "Phil's" association with Tiffany, he was representative for Educational in Montreal, for a period of four years, and was previously associated with Universal for a period of five years. He recently finished a trip across Canada, addressing exhibitors at various conferences; and successfully launching the Tiffany Five-Year Franchise Plan throughout Canada.

Exhibitors will grieve at his sudden demise, for to meet "Phil" Hazza meant that you were his friend, for "Phil" was a friend to everyone; and a Sales Representative in this Industry of ours, of which we could be proud.

Members of Hazza Family Thank Industry

The Digest has been requested by the widow of Phillip Hazza, and the surviving members of his family, to thank the Industry for its expressions of sympathy at their recent bereavement; and the many kindnesses which various representatives in our Industry extended to the family in their great sorrow.

Motiograph Supremacy !!

The Motiograph has proven its sterling qualities and fitness for "Sound" use in the following among many more Theatres:

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Prince of Wales, Toronto (Western)
Kenilworth, Hamilton (Pacnet)
Doric, Toronto (Cinephone)

Palace, London (De Forest)
Capitol, Brampton (Pacnet)
Park, Toronto (Western)
Model, Toronto (De Forest)
Eastwood, Toronto (Western)
Christie, Toronto (Western)
Queen's, Hamilton (Pacnet)
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"Courtesy With Service"

Round About the Studios

"Come Out of the Kitchen," a comedy of the South of today, which elevated Ruth Chatterton to stage stardom a few seasons ago, will be made into a musical comedy for the talking screen as Nancy Carroll's second starring vehicle for Paramount.

Rowland G. Edwards has just completed an original screen story entitled "Wound Stripes," a drama of post-war days, which is scheduled as one of the forthcoming productions of Tiffany Productions, Inc.

As a result of the fine performance she gives in "The Grand Parade," Helen Twelvetrees has been signed to a long term contract by Pathe. Thus this musical talker of minstrel life has been the means of adding two names to the Pathe stock company, for Fred Scott, a concert singer who made his picture debut in "The Grand Parade," has also since been signed by Pathe.

A German army training camp of the war days, the most rigorous in military history, by which school boys were transformed into Germany's famed "Iron Youth," has been established at Universal City in preparation for the production of "All Quiet on the Western Front" as a Universal picture.

"It's a Great Life" has been selected as final title for the talking picture which the Duncan Sisters are making for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

This was formerly known as "Cotton and Silk," and has a number of musical interpolations, several new songs having been composed for the film by Ballard Macdonald and Dave Dreyer.

The picture is being directed by Sam Wood.

After an absence of several weeks from the Columbia lot during which time she was loaned to RKO for one of the leading feminine roles in "Tanned Legs," Dorothy Revier has returned to the Columbia studio for the leading feminine role in "Murder on the Roof."



Bert Lytell, Columbia star.

Giovanni Pucci, Rome representative of Pathe Sound News, is on a tour of the Swiss Alps with the first sound equipment to be taken to these famous heights.

Grace Hayes, vaudeville, Victor, radio and night club star, left on Monday for Universal City to make her debut in moving pictures. She will be the leading lady in "The King of Jazz Revue," starring Paul Whiteman, which John Murray Anderson has just placed in production there. The Twin Sisters G, famous European dancing sensation, preceded her by one day.

The tragicomic struggles of a youth facing his first year of post-collegiate life is the theme of William Haines' new Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer starring film, "Fresh From College."

Carl Dreher, formerly chief engineer of RCA Photophone Inc., is the new director of the sound department at the RKO Studios in Hollywood. The appointment was made by William Le Baron, vice-president in charge of RKO production.



"Untamed," Joan Crawford's latest for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. Jack Conway directing.

Kathryn Crawford has been assigned by Universal to play opposite Ken Maynard in his fourth all-talking western production. It is entitled "Kettle Creek" and was written by Jacques Jaccard. Direction will be by Harry Brown. This is the second Ken Maynard production in which Kathryn Crawford has been featured. The first was "Senor Americano."

Helen Wright, who is regarded as a sensational singer and who was discovered in a small role with Glenn Tryon in "Anything Goes," has been signed to a long term Universal contract. Others in this picture, made from Matt Taylor and Sherman Lowe's story, "Paradise Alley," include Kathryn Crawford, Tom Dugan, Otis Harlan and Eddie Gribbon.

Philo Vance, current fiction's most renowned analytical detective, is to be brought to life again by William Powell.

Paramount announces that it has acquired the talking picture rights to "The Benson Murder Case" from S. S. Van Dine and that in its adaptation Powell will again play the detective who first enhanced his fame in "The Canary Murder Case."



Ramon Novarro will next be seen in "Devil May Care," an M-G-M feature, directed by Sidney Franklin.

Herbert Brenon's production of "The Case of Sergeant Grischa" with Chester Morris and Betty Compson, now being filmed at the RKO studios in Hollywood is to be a road show attraction ranking in importance with such productions as "Rio Rita," "Hit the Deck" and "Radio Revels," according to an announcement by Joseph I. Schnitzer, President of Radio Pictures.

A well-known cast is being lined up by Paramount to support Richard Arlen in his first starring vehicle, an all-talking romance of the automobile racetrack, as yet untitled, which will be directed by Edward Sutherland. In addition to Mary Brian, as leading woman, Francis McDonald has been assigned to the role of the principal menace, that of Arlen's unscrupulous racing mate. He has just completed an important role in "Flesh of Eve," Nancy Carroll's first starring vehicle for Paramount.

Sam Hardy has been engaged to play the role of a voluble racing promoter. His last role for this company was that of the baseball manager in "Fast Company," co-featuring Evelyn Brent and Jack Oakie.

Armida, who plays with John Barrymore in "General Crack" is Vitaphone's newest discovery. She was found singing Spanish songs in the Mexican theatre in Los Angeles.

Hoot Gibson started production this week on "Fools' Luck" under the direction of Arthur Rosson. His leading lady will be Olive Young.

Universal has changed the title of "The Come-On Girl" to "Undertow." "The Come-On Girl" was a story by Wilbur Daniel Steele called in the studios "Ropes," in which Mary Nolan is starring. In her support appear Robert Ellis, John Mack Brown, Audrey Ferris and Churchill Ross. It is being directed by Harry Pollard.

**And Still They Come---Another Great Hit
From PATHE**

**Ann
Harding**
in
**Her
Private
Affair**

*By Herman
Bernstein*

*Directed by
Paul Stein*

Pathe

“Glorious”

Says “Photoplay”

“If your reaction is like ours when you come out of the theatre after seeing this picture, you won't be discussing whether Vera Kessler should have killed Arnold Hartman or not. You will be willing to have it remain 'Her Private Affair.' Your only thought will be, 'What a glorious creature this Ann Harding is!' Harry Bannister and Ann Harding are husband and wife in real life, as in this picture. This is Bannister's first screen appearance.

This picture deals with the problems of a young wife of high social standing in Vienna, who kills a man who is attempting blackmail. Did she do it deliberately or did she think the gun was not loaded? Find out! If you leave before the finish we hope you slip on a banana peel on the way out. All Talkie.”

PHOTOPLAY—NOVEMBER

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